

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1-41. (Cancelled).

42. (New) A push-to-talk controller in a wireless network for establishing a local ad hoc group session between an inviting mobile terminal and local mobile terminals, the push-to-talk controller comprising:

- a presence server configured to identify one or more local mobile terminals that are within a local area of an inviting mobile terminal;
- a group server configured to create an ad-hoc group for a local ad-hoc group session including the inviting mobile terminal and one or more of the local mobile terminals within the local area of the inviting mobile terminal; and
- a push-to-talk server configured to establish the local ad hoc group session between the inviting mobile terminal and the local mobile terminals in the ad-hoc group responsive to a request from the inviting mobile terminal.

43. (New) The push-to-talk controller of claim 42 wherein the group server is further configured to:

- determine whether a given local mobile terminal is blocked from inclusion in the ad-hoc group based on a block list stored in memory at the group server; and
- include the given mobile terminal within the local ad-hoc group if the given mobile terminal is not blocked.

44. (New) The push-to-talk controller of claim 42 wherein the push-to-talk server sends an invite message to the local mobile terminals in the ad-hoc group, and establishes the local ad hoc group session between the inviting mobile terminal and the local mobile terminals in the ad-hoc group that respond to the invite message.

45. (New) The push-to-talk controller of claim 42 further comprising a core server that receives the request from the inviting mobile terminal and forwards a list of the local mobile terminals identified by the presence server to the push-to-talk server.

46. (New) The push-to-talk controller of claim 42 wherein the group server is further configured to filter the local mobile terminals identified by the presence server based on a media type restriction to identify the local mobile terminals having specified media type capabilities for inclusion in the ad-hoc group.

47. (New) The push-to-talk controller of claim 46 wherein the push-to-talk server sends an invite message to each of the local mobile terminals in the ad-hoc group, and establishes the local ad hoc group session between the inviting mobile terminal and one or more of the local mobile terminals in the ad-hoc group that respond to the invite message.

48. (New) The push-to-talk controller of claim 46 wherein the group server further filters the local mobile terminals identified by the presence server based on a subject of interest identified by the inviting mobile terminal.

49. (New) The push-to-talk controller of claim 42 wherein the presence server determines a current location of the inviting mobile terminal.

50. (New) The push-to-talk controller of claim 49 wherein the presence server defines the local area based on the current location of the inviting mobile terminal.

51. (New) The push-to-talk controller of claim 42 wherein the presence server receives a defined local area from the inviting mobile.

52. (New) The push-to-talk controller of claim 42 wherein the presence server identifies the local mobile terminals within the local area of the inviting mobile terminal by identifying local mobile terminals that are within at least a portion of the same cell as the inviting mobile terminal.

53. (New) The push-to-talk controller of claim 42 wherein the presence server identifies the local mobile terminals within the local area of the inviting mobile terminal by identifying local mobile terminals that are within a defined distance of the inviting mobile terminal.

54. (New) The push-to-talk controller of claim 42 further comprising a memory for dynamically storing groups and dynamically storing updated lists of local mobile terminals within the local area of the inviting mobile terminal.

55. (New) A method of establishing a local ad hoc group session in a wireless network between an inviting mobile terminal and one or more local mobile terminals, the method comprising:

receiving a request to initiate a local ad hoc group session from an inviting mobile terminal;

identifying one or more local mobile terminals that are within a local area of an inviting mobile terminal;

creating an ad-hoc group for a local ad-hoc group session including the inviting mobile terminal and one or more of the local mobile terminals within the local area of the inviting mobile terminal; and

establishing the local ad hoc group session between the inviting mobile terminal and the local mobile terminals in the ad-hoc group.

56. (New) The method of claim 55 wherein creating an ad-hoc group comprises:

determining whether a given local mobile terminal identified as being within the local area of the inviting mobile terminal is blocked from inclusion in the ad-hoc group based on a block list stored in memory at a group server in the wireless network; and

including the given mobile terminal within the local ad-hoc group if the given mobile terminal is not blocked.

57. (New) The method of claim 55 wherein establishing the local ad hoc group session comprises:

sending an invite message to the local mobile terminals within the local area of the inviting mobile terminal; and

establishing the local ad hoc group session between the inviting mobile terminal and the local mobile terminals that respond to the invite message.

58. (New) The method of claim 55 wherein creating an ad-hoc group further comprises filtering the local mobile terminals identified as being within the local area of the inviting mobile terminal based on a media type restriction.

59. (New) The method of claim 58 wherein establishing the local ad hoc group session comprises:

- sending an invite message to one or more of the local mobile terminals in the ad-hoc group;
- and
- establishing the local ad hoc group session between the inviting mobile terminal and the local mobile terminals that respond to the invite message.

60. (New) The method of claim 58 wherein creating an ad-hoc group further comprises filtering the local mobile terminals identified as being within the local area of the inviting mobile terminal based on a subject of interest identified by the inviting mobile terminal.

61. (New) The method of claim 55 wherein identifying one or more local mobile terminals that are within a local area of an inviting mobile terminal comprises identifying the local mobile terminals that are within at least a portion of a base station cell containing the inviting mobile terminal.

62. (New) The method of claim 55 wherein identifying one or more local mobile terminals that are within a local area of an inviting mobile terminal comprises identifying the local mobile terminals that are within a defined distance of the inviting mobile terminal.

63. (New) The method of claim 55 further comprising storing and dynamically updating groups of local mobile terminals identified as being within one or more local areas of the inviting mobile terminal.

64. (New) A push-to-talk controller in a wireless network for establishing a push-to-talk communication session for a local ad hoc group comprising an inviting mobile terminal and local mobile terminals, the push-to-talk controller comprising:

- a presence server configured to identify one or more local mobile terminals that are within a local area of an inviting mobile terminal;
- a group server configured to create an ad-hoc group for a local ad-hoc group session including the inviting mobile terminal and one or more of the local mobile terminals within the local area of the inviting mobile terminal that are identified as being capable of communicating a specified media type; and
- a push-to-talk server configured to establish the local ad hoc group session between the inviting mobile terminal and the local mobile terminals in the ad-hoc group responsive to a request from the inviting mobile terminal.

65. (New) The push-to-talk controller of claim 64 wherein the group server is further configured to filter the local mobile terminals identified as being within the local area of the inviting mobile terminal based on a user-specified radius.

66. (New) The push-to-talk controller of claim 64 wherein the group server is further configured to filter the local mobile terminals identified as being within the local area of the inviting mobile terminal based on a user-specified geographic region.

67. (New) The push-to-talk controller of claim 64 wherein the group server is further configured to filter the identified local mobile terminals based on a user-specified geographic region.

68. (New) The push-to-talk controller of claim 64 wherein the group server is further configured to:

determine whether a given local mobile terminal is blocked from inclusion in the ad-hoc group based on a block list stored in memory at the group server; and

include the given mobile terminal within the local ad-hoc group if the given mobile terminal is not blocked.